

Vermont Department of Health  
Rental Housing Health Code Amendment  
Effective March 1, 2006  
Summary of Amended Standards

Section #		Summary of Change
1974 Code	March 1, 2006 Amendment	
Not Present	I	General Provisions: New section provides purpose, authority and scope of the Rental Housing Health Code.
N/A*	Not Present	Removal of Local Health Rules and Regulations section outlining adoption of local housing codes as this authority is implicit if a local code is at least as effective.
N/A*	II	Definitions: Several new terms used in the code are defined in this section.
1, 3.5, 6.2, 8	III	Sanitation Facilities: Expanded section which includes the following modifications. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bathroom requirements: Based on VT State Plumbing Code standards, the following rooming house bathroom requirements now apply: One toilet and sink for every 10 persons and one bathtub/shower for every eight persons (instead of for every six persons)</li> <li>▪ Non-Absorbent Surfaces: Thorough description of acceptable floor and counter surfaces in bathrooms in kitchens</li> <li>▪ Water Supply: Provides more comprehensive potable water, water supply deficiency, and sewage disposal requirements. In addition the water temperature requirements were changed from a minimum of 100° F and a maximum of &lt;120° F. This mimics current safety standards in terms of health concerns and risk of scalding/burns.</li> <li>▪ Garbage/Rubbish: More specific definition of owner and occupant responsibilities.</li> <li>▪ Mobile home lot rentals: New requirements for water supply and sewage disposal for rented mobile home lots not located in a mobile home park.</li> </ul>
5	IV	Insects and Rodents: Provides new definition for infestation and expanded owner and occupant responsibilities.
2.3	V	Heating: New subsection defines the location within a rental unit where the temperature requirement must be met and measured by inspectors.
2.1	VI	Ventilation: Expanded section which includes the following changes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ New ventilation standards allowing a door to substitute a window in habitable rooms.</li> <li>▪ New requirement for screens to be provided in all operable windows and in doors substituting for a window.</li> <li>▪ New provision which requires all clothing dryers to be vented directly to the exterior of the building.</li> <li>▪ Provision addressing the use of vaporizers/humidifiers.</li> </ul>
2.2	VII	Lighting and Electricity: New requirements for safe, working condition electrical services for rented mobile home lots not located in a mobile home park
3	VIII	Structural Elements: This section includes the following changes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ More concise summary of maintenance responsibilities in regards to units being weathertight, watertight, rodent proof and in good repair.</li> <li>▪ Standards addressing standing water or excessive moisture and the associated responsibilities.</li> </ul>
Not Present	IX	Mobile Homes on a Rented Lot: New section addressing the rental of mobile home lots not located in a mobile home park, clarifying owner responsibilities regarding connections for electrical services, water supply and sewage disposal.
6, 7	X	General Responsibilities: Section outlines responsibilities of owners and occupants and includes more specific responsibilities.
9	XI	Enforcement: Section outlining responsibilities condensed as town health officer/board of health authority is implicit through Title 18 of the Vermont Statutes.

\*Found in the introductory section of the 1974 Code.